

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # \_\_\_\_\_

APP # 700118

### **ITEM 1. Proposed Project**

The 2009 Law Enforcement grant from the OHMVR Division will help fund Law Enforcement Ranger positions and support materials that work on OHV enforcement throughout the Ridgecrest Field Office managed lands. Focus will be placed on the Jawbone/Butterbrecht Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Rand Mountains/Fremont Valley Management Area, El Paso Mountain Management Area and the Spangler Hills OHV area. The Ridgecrest area encompasses approximately 1.8 million acres of public land, located about 2 hours north of the Los Angeles area. This project will continue our efforts to enforce OHV regulations, on large tracts of BLM administered land where OHV use is the single largest recreational demand.

This heavy use occurs both within the OHV Open Areas as well as on large parcels of land that are designated as "LIMITED USE" lands where OHV traffic is authorized only on the designated road/trail system. An important and time consuming enforcement task is patrolling and enforcing regulations within these designated systems to remind OHV users to remain on the designated route system. An area we will continue to emphasize our efforts in will be the limited use areas adjacent to the Jawbone Canyon and Dove Springs Open Areas. In this area we continue to have trespass onto illegal routes and destruction of restoration efforts. In order to further our compliance efforts in the area, we will be utilizing the continued use of regulatory and directional signing, public outreach through direct visitor contact at the entrance to these areas, followed up by targeted enforcement action in the affected area. Another area we will be working in is the Rand Mountains. A temporary permit system has been put in place in the area. Time spent in the Rand Mountains will also be spent gaining compliance to a designated trail system. We will be continuing our extensive public outreach efforts and public education as required by the West Mojave Plan. Part of this effort will be check points into the area to ensure all vehicle operators have the required OHV permit for operation in the area. This will help us obtain a higher level of compliance in the area.

Furthermore, adjacent to many of these areas of high OHV use are designated Wilderness areas and large tracts of private land, and with other areas that are off limits to motorized vehicles. To prevent intrusions into these areas, we plan on conducting "STING" operations to catch violators with the assistance of volunteers and organizations such as the California Wilderness Coalition and Sierra Club.

Additionally, to continue our efforts to manage and sustain OHV recreational use opportunities on the Public Lands we plan on obtaining contracts with both the Sheriff's Departments in Kern and San Bernardino Counties. The contract with the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department will provide Deputies to assist with patrol efforts in the Spangler OHV area and the Red Mountain area. These efforts will be focused on obtaining rider compliance with the areas designated trail system protecting desert tortoise habitat and to prevent trespass onto private property in and around the community of Red Mountain. The contract with the Kern County Sheriff's Department will continue the aerial support that has been given over the last several years. This support continues to be a huge deterrent to OHV incursions into designated Wilderness areas as well as into other closed areas.

The Ridgecrest managed area has seen a significant increase in OHV use over the last year. For instance, over the Thanksgiving holiday, we saw about 160,000 visitors in the area.

### **ITEM 2. Project Coverage**

The BLM Ridgecrest Field Office (RFO) is located in the Western Mojave Desert and is a transitional zone between the West Mojave Desert bioregion, the Sierra Nevada, Great Basin and the San Joaquin Valley bioregions and manages nearly 1.8 million acres of Public Land in Kern, Inyo, Mono, Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties. This includes four OHV open areas (over 79,000 acres) at Jawbone Canyon, Dove Springs, Spangler Hills and Olancho Dunes. Motorized vehicle travel is authorized on an extensive network of designated routes totaling some 3,000 miles of roads and trails allowing access to public lands. The management area includes 16 wilderness areas, approximately 83 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), the Jawbone-Butterbrecht Area Of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), El Paso Mountains, and the Rand Mountains/Fremont Valley Management Area.

**ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols**

Patrols of the area are carried out at least 5 days per week, with varied hours of operations being carried out. The most patrolled areas are Radmacher Hills Management Area, Jawbone Canyon OHV Area, Dove Springs OHV Area, Spangler OHV Area, Red Mountain Sub-region, Jawbone - Butterbrecht ACEC, Rand Mountains ACEC, Kiavah Wilderness Area, Bright Star Wilderness Area, Pacific Crest Trail, El Paso Mountains Management Area and Wilderness, Grass Valley and Golden Valley Wilderness Areas.

**ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel**

9 to 13 Law Enforcement Rangers will be utilized for the purpose of this project. The Ridgecrest Field Office has a full time staff of 8 Law Enforcement Rangers. On the popular holiday weekends, Rangers on detail assignments from around the area join our RFO team to help increase efforts.

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### Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

Jawbone Canyon OHV Area, Dove Springs OHV Area, Spangler OHV Area, Jawbone - Butterbrecht ACEC, Rand Mountains ACEC, Kiavah Wilderness Area, Bright Star Wilderness Area, Pacific Crest Trail, El Paso Mountains Mangement Area and Wilderness Area, Grass Valley and Golden Valley Wilderness Areas. Rand Mountain limited use area.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

Project will allow for continued OHV outreach and patrol efforts to regulate and educate the OHV users on rules and regulations of the area. Targeted Sting operations will be utilized to catch violators in the illegal use areas such as wilderness, private property, critical wildlife habitat area's and closed areas. Specific patrols will be utilized in the area to target DUI and drug related activities that are occurring in the OHV use areas. Education materials will be given to the public on staying on designated routes of travel outside of OHV open areas. This will decrease the amount of illegal trails and preserve restoration areas, keeping legal riding areas open for OHV use.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

The Ridgecrest Field Office has had an ongoing working relationship with the Kern County Sheriff and California City Police Departments on OHV enforcement activities. This grant will continue the contract with the Kern County Sheriff's office for helicopter and deputy support on busy long holiday weekends in the OHV areas. Joint operations with the Kern County Sheriff will allow for increased patrol coverage of OHV areas and critical habitat on major holiday weekends, when use is intense.

### Law Enforcement - Page 2

4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

Explain

The BLM receives \$5 per person or 3% of gross receipts for competitive OHV events held on public lands. These fees come back to the Recreation program within the BLM, not specifically for Law Enforcement.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

Handouts have been prepared and are readily available at the Ridgecrest Office and on kiosks at the entrances of all BLM riding areas. In addition the law enforcement program attends local fairs and hands out flyers with OHV related rules and regulations for the area. The Rangers regularly attend U.S. Navy safety meetings and disseminate safety rules and regulations for the area to Navy personnel from the Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake. Natural and cultural resource protection and education are included in all training and information meetings that are attended by law enforcement. Trail etiquette and tread lightly are included in ATV safety trainings that are given by the Ridgecrest Field Office at least twice a year to members of the public and other governmental agencies. All Rangers have been certified on sound testing equipment and DUI detection. All Rangers have been certified through ASI for ATV operation.

### Law Enforcement - Page 3

- 7.

Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No)



Yes



No

8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:

**Law Enforcement - Page 4**

10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:

Through a combination of BLM funds and a State of California OHV grants.

11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No)



Yes



No

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
 Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____				
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office						
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Law Enforcement	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>					
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education &amp; Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>						
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>The 2009 Law Enforcement grant from the OHMVR Division will help fund Law Enforcement Ranger positions and support materials that work on OHV enforcement throughout the Ridgecrest Field Office managed lands. Focus will be placed on the Jawbone/Butterbrecht Area of Critical Environmental Concern, Rand Mountains/Fremont Valley Management Area, El Paso Mountain Management Area and the Spangler Hills OHV area. The Ridgecrest area encompasses approximately 1.8 million acres of public land, located about 2 hours north of the Los Angeles area. This project will continue our efforts to enforce OHV regulations, on large tracts of BLM administered land where OHV use is the single largest recreational demand.</p> <p>This heavy use occurs both within the OHV Open Areas as well as on large parcels of land that are designated as "LIMITED USE" lands where OHV traffic is authorized only on the designated road/trail system. An important and time consuming enforcement task is patrolling and enforcing regulations within these designated systems to remind OHV users to remain on the designated route system. An area we will continue to emphasize our efforts in will be the limited use areas adjacent to the Jawbone Canyon and Dove Springs Open Areas. In this area we continue to have trespass onto illegal routes and destruction of restoration efforts. In order to further our compliance efforts in the area, we will be utilizing the continued use of regulatory and directional signing, public outreach through direct visitor contact at the entrance to these areas, followed up by targeted enforcement action in the affected area. Another area we will be working in is the Rand Mountains. A temporary permit system has been put in place in the area. Time spent in the Rand Mountains will also be spent gaining compliance to a designated trail system. We will be continuing our extensive public outreach efforts and public education as required by the West Mojave Plan. Part of this effort will be check points into the area to ensure all vehicle operators have the required OHV permit for operation in the area. This will help us obtain a higher level of compliance in the area.</p> <p>Furthermore, adjacent to many of these areas of high OHV use are designated Wilderness areas and large tracts of private land, and with other areas that are off limits to motorized vehicles. To prevent intrusions into these areas, we plan on conducting "STING" operations to catch violators with the assistance of volunteers and organizations such as the California Wilderness Coalition and Sierra Club.</p> <p>Additionally, to continue our efforts to manage and sustain OHV recreational use opportunities on the Public Lands we plan on obtaining contracts with both the Sheriff's Departments in Kern and San Bernardino Counties. The contract with the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department will provide Deputies to assist with patrol efforts in the Spangler OHV area and the Red Mountain area. These efforts will be focused on obtaining rider compliance with the areas designated trail system protecting desert tortoise habitat and to prevent trespass onto private property in and around the community of Red Mountain. The contract with the Kern County Sheriff's Department will continue the aerial support that has been given over the last several years. This support continues to be a huge deterrent to OHV incursions into designated Wilderness areas as well as into other closed areas.</p> <p>The Ridgecrest managed area has seen a significant increase in OHV use over the last year. For instance, over the Thanksgiving holiday, we saw about 160,000 visitors in the area.</p>						
	<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>UOM</b>	<b>Grant Request</b>	<b>Match</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Law Enforcement Officers	3000.000	38.000	HRS	114,000.00	0.00	114,000.00
	Other-Park Ranger/Fire Holiday Support	1000.000	20.000	HRS	15,000.00	5,000.00	20,000.00
	Law Enforcement Officers	1000.000	38.000	HRS	38,000.00	0.00	38,000.00
	Supervisor	1500.000	45.000	HRS	35,000.00	32,500.00	67,500.00
	Other-Volunteer Assistance	1800.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	36,000.00	36,000.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				202,000.00	73,500.00	275,500.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
	Air Time Notes : Air time contract allows the BLM to contract for services with the Kern County Sheriff. BLM pays for the air ship and KCSO pays for the pilots. This will allow air patrol for OHV violators on busy holiday weekends, focusing on the wilderness areas adjacent to OHV open and limited use areas. It will also allow for air patrol of the Rand Mountain ACEC area so that it may be re opened to OHV use as required with the management plan. The BLM and KCSO has had a grant funded air contract over the previous 4 grant cycles.	1.000	25000.000	EA	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance Notes : Law enforcement vehicle milage for costs associated with OHV patrols.	1.000	19000.000	EA	19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
	Training	1.000	4500.000	MISC	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Training funds will be used to train new Rangers (2) on ATV and motorcycle training. travel and tuition on PAS device training for DUI enforcement and travel and training on DUI/DRE training for the Ranger staff.						
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
	Administrative Costs-10 Percent	1.000	36828.000	YR	0.00	36,828.00	36,828.00
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>					250,500.00	110,328.00	360,828.00
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					250,500.00	110,328.00	360,828.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>					<b>250,500.00</b>	<b>110,328.00</b>	<b>360,828.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
Application: Law Enforcement

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	202,000.00	73,500.00	275,500.00	
2	Contracts	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	This contract is to allow the BLM to contract the Kern County Sheriff's helicopter for the purpose of OHV patrols on major holiday weekends. This includes time for joint operations on OHV intrusions "STING" operations, specifically targeting wilderness area's where OHV's have made a significant impact near open areas. The helicopter is also used in conjunction with ground patrols in the Rand Mountains to cover the ACEC. The BLM and KCSO have had this contract in place for the past 5 years.
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	36,828.00	36,828.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		250,500.00	110,328.00	360,828.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		250,500.00	110,328.00	360,828.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>250,500.00</b>	<b>110,328.00</b>	<b>360,828.00</b>	



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**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**